

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A service providing system comprising ~~a network, at least one client being connected to said network,~~ a system at service provider side for providing services to at least one said client via ~~a said network~~ network,

wherein said system at service provider side comprises a service server being connected to said network and at least one application server for providing services, wherein the service server is connected to a first of the at least one application server over a first dedicated line having a first management IP address; and

wherein the service server, upon receipt of a request by the client having a first IP address corresponding to the first management IP address is delivered via said service server, replaces the first IP address with the first management IP address and forwards the request over the first dedicated line to the first application server, wherein the first application server returns a response to the service server based on the request; and wherein the service server, upon receipt of the response from the first application server, stores the response in a memory and returns the response services provided by the application server are returned to the client via the service server, and wherein the service server, following the return of the response, deletes the response from the memory.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) A service providing system according to claim 1, wherein said application servers and said service server are connected together via ISDN where only designations from dedicated lines or from particular numbers are recognized.

4. (Original) A service providing system according to claim 1, wherein said service server has at least one function to support the work conducted in said application

servers.

5. (Original) A service providing system according to claim 1, wherein said network is Internet, Intranet, WAN or LAN.

6. (Original) A service providing system according to claim 1, wherein one or more of said application servers constitute a client.

7. (Currently amended) A service providing system according to claim 6, wherein said ~~net-work~~ network is WAN or LAN.

8. (Currently amended) A service providing system according to claim 4 5, wherein said function for supporting the work conducted in said application servers includes at least one selected from the group consisting of an illegal access preventing function, a virus checking function, a data cleaning function, a data converting function, a data storing function, a data value added distributing function, and a data backup function.

9. (Currently amended) A service providing system according to claim 4 6, wherein said function for supporting the work conducted in said application servers includes at least one selected from the group consisting of an illegal access preventing function, a virus checking function, a data cleaning function, a data converting function, a data storing function, a data value added distributing function, a data backup function, a data exchange history storing function between said application servers, a data protocol conversion function, and a dataware house analyzing result distributing function.

10. (Original) A service providing system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of service servers are provided and at least one of them backs-up the others.

11. (Original) A service providing system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of service servers are provided so that a load of the system is distributed to the plurality of

service servers.

12. (Currently amended) A service providing method comprising steps:

connecting application servers having a service providing function to a service server via respective dedicated lines having respective management IP addresses  
~~ISDN where only destination from dedicated lines or particular numbers is recognized;~~

connecting said service server to a network; and

providing a service from at least one of said application server to clients, which are connected to said network, via said service server, wherein the providing the service comprises the service server performing the following steps:

replacing a first IP address of a first request by a client with a first management IP address corresponding to the first IP address;

forwarding the first request to a first application server connected to the first dedicated line to cause the first application server to transmit a response;

receiving the response from the first application server and storing it in a memory; and

forwarding the response to the client and then deleting the response from the memory.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) A service providing method according to claim 12, wherein said service server has a function to support the work conducted in said application server, and wherein said application server uses the supporting function.

15. (Original) A service providing method according to claim 14, wherein said service server has at least a fire wall function for said application server supporting function.